



Minutes Historical Museum Advisory Board May 1, 2008

Minutes of the Historical Museum Advisory Board held on May 1, 2008, 9:00 a.m., at the Tempe Historical Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, Arizona.

Board Present:

Gail Fisher, Chair
Jean Berry, Vice Chair
Anne Chandler
Marcia Cypert
Betty Enz
Dan Killoren
Robert McKinley
Lisa Roach

Board Absent:

Frank Schmuck

City Staff Present:

Adrienne Richwine, Deputy Community Services Manager, Cultural Services
Amy Douglass, Museum Administrator
Jerri Copenhaver, Administrative Assistant

Guest Present:

Victor Linoff

Meeting convened at 9:02 a.m.

Chair Gail Fisher called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes: April 3, 2008

MOTION: Berry Enz moved to approve the minutes of April 3, 2008.

SECOND: Jean Berry

DECISION: Carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Communications

- **Dr. Amy Douglass** reminded the Board that the ice cream social for the museum's volunteers would be on May 9. She encouraged them to attend.
- She also told the Board that the **Petersen House Museum** is closed, due to restoration construction on the exterior. It will be closed for most of the month and she is unsure when it will reopen, but she said that visitation is normally slow during May.
- **Dr. Douglass** congratulated **Victor Linoff** on being a recipient of one of the inaugural **MADEE (Mill Avenue District Esteemed Excellence)** awards. A copy of *The Tempe Republic*, containing an article about the awards was circulated.
- **Chair Gail Fisher** circulated two articles from the *Tribune*: one about the **Eisendrath House** renovations and the other about relocating the **Sandra Day O'Connor House** to Tempe.

Agenda Item 3 – Museum Renovation

Dr. Amy Douglass reported on the **museum renovation** planning.

- She said **Gyroscope**, the exhibit designers, shared their concepts for the children's gallery with the staff during a teleconference call on April 10. The staff liked several of their ideas.

- The working title for the children's gallery is "My Tempe." It will incorporate layered activities for multiple ages. **Dr. Douglass** gave an example of one of their ideas.
- She also reported that there was a meeting on April 11 with a representative from the **Gila River Indian Community**, regarding the museum's grant proposal for the children's gallery.
- **Dr. Douglass** said the representative toured the exhibit hall and reacted very positively to the project.
- The representative indicated that she would make a recommendation to the grant review committee that the money be spread over a two-year period.
- **Dr. Douglass** answered questions from the Board about the museum renovation.

Agenda Item 4 – Museum "Tag Line"

There was no report.

Agenda Item 5 – Lecture and Book Signing

Lisa Roach said she sent information to the president of the **Tempe Historical Society** about how to have **Channel 12** assist in sponsoring events.

- She thought they might want to ask **Channel 12** to help sponsor the fundraising lecture and book signing event in November.

Agenda Item 6 – Call for Nominations for Board Officers

Chair Gail Fisher asked for nominations for Board Chair and Vice Chair for 2008 – 2009.

- She said the slate would be decided this month and the vote would be taken at the June meeting.
- The Board nominated **Gail Fisher** for Chair and **Lisa Roach** for Vice Chair.
- **Ms. Fisher** asked the Board to assist by serving on the committees. **Lisa Roach** agreed to take **Ms. Fisher's** place as the **Public Programs Committee** representative.

Agenda Item 7 – Programming Ideas for the Elias-Rodriguez House

Lisa Roach reported that the **Guess Birchett Questers** fundraising golf tournament on April 18, to benefit the **Elias-Rodriguez House**, raised \$500 and helped raise awareness of the House.

- She said there was an article in *The Arizona Republic* about the tournament and the **Elias-Rodriguez House**.
- **Ms. Roach** circulated a newly-created brochure with information about the House and the **Guess Birchett Chapter of Questers**.
- She talked about several **programming ideas** that would raise awareness of the **Elias-Rodriguez House** and help keep the Tempe Historical Museum in the public eye, while the museum is closed for renovation.
- **Ms. Roach** circulated copies of a list showing the **programming ideas**.
- **Dr. Douglass** said a procedure for tours of the **Elias-Rodriguez House** would need to be established, and said there is currently no funding for it to become a house museum.
- The Board had a discussion about the City of Tempe's funding for its historic houses.

Agenda Item 8 – Board Standing Committee and Representative Reports

8A Petersen House Endowment Committee

Marcia Cypert reported on the raffle of "in-kind" donations that had been received during the **Petersen House Endowment Committee's** fundraiser last fall.

- She said \$126 was raised by selling raffle tickets at the Neighborhood Workshop and Awards event at the **Pyle Adult Center** on April 5.
- **Jean Berry** reported that the money from the raffle brings the total amount from last fall's fundraiser to \$1601. She said there was less response from the Committee's letters requesting cash donations in 2007 than there had been in 2006, so another fundraising method should be used this year.
- **Chair Gail Fisher** suggested raising funds by selling something at the Danish Christmas event at the **Petersen House**.
- **Dr. Amy Douglass** said she would notify the Committee members the next time there is a

planning meeting for the Danish Christmas event.

8B Public Programs Representative

There was no report.

8C Policy, Procedures and Accessions Representative

There was no report.

8D Historic Preservation Representative

Lisa Roach said she attended the **Historic Preservation Commission's (HPC)** meeting on April 10.

- She reported that the **HPC** discussed the interpretive elements that are being proposed by the developer at the **Hayden Flour Mill**.
- **Ms. Roach** said they also discussed the **Tempe [Hayden] Butte** designation; a letter that was received from the developer of **100 Mill Avenue [Monti's La Casa Vieja]**; and the **W.P.A. sidewalks** in the **Maple-Ash** neighborhood.
- She said the **HPC** moved their next meeting to June 19, due to the 6th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, which falls on their regular meeting date.

8E Tempe Historical Society Representative

Betty Enz reported on the **Tempe Historical Society's (THS)** upcoming activities.

- She said the **THS** annual meeting and luncheon will be May 3 at **Monti's La Casa Vieja**.
- **Ms. Enz** said the **THS** is still planning to have their annual fundraising barbecue this fall.
- She also reported that **Frank Schmuck** is still working with the **THS** to promote the fundraising lecture and book signing event at **Fiesta Inn** on November 7.

8F Diversity Awareness Representative

Marcia Cypert said that the *Jewel in the Desert* exhibit advisory committee's next meeting would be held on May 7.

- **Dr. Amy Douglass** reported that the "Voices of Light" choir would be performing traditional songs in multiple languages at the Wild Wednesday program on July 9. She said the leader of the choir is a member of the *Jewel in the Desert* exhibit advisory committee.

Agenda Item 9 – Board Announcements

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items

- Review standing Board committees and representatives.
- Mark Vinson will give an update on the Eisendrath House on June 5.

The Board's next meeting will be June 5, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Prepared by: Jerri Copenhaver

Gail Fisher
Chair, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board